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In re Application of :
STOKKI et al. :
U.S. Application No. 10/596,261 :
PCT No.: PCT/EP04/53091 :
Int. Filing Date: 24 November 2004 : COMMUNICATION
Priority Date: 17 December 2003 :
Attorney Docket No.: 78200-898US :
For: ELECTRONICALLY CONDUCTIVE :
FLOOR COVERINGS :

The above-identified application is before the Office of PCT Legal Administration for consideration of matters under 35 U.S.C. 371.

BACKGROUND

On 24 November 2004, applicant filed international application No. PCT/EP04/53091, which claimed a priority date of 17 December 2003. A copy of the international application was communicated to the United States Patent and Trademark Office from the International Bureau on 30 June 2005. Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.495, the deadline for payment of the basic national fee in the United States was to expire 30 months from the priority date, 17 June 2006.

On 08 June 2006, applicant filed, through the representation of the law firm of Norris McLaughlin & Marcus, a transmittal letter for entry into the national stage in the United States (Form PTO-1390) which was accompanied by, *inter alia*, the requisite basic national fee as required by 35 U.S.C. 371(c)(1). The submission, identifying international application no. PCT/EP04/53091, was assigned U.S. application number 10/596,261.

On 16 June 2006, applicant filed, through the representation of a law firm of Nath & Associates, PLLC, a second transmittal letter for entry into the national stage in the United States referencing the international application PCT/EP04/53091, which was accompanied by, *inter alia*, a second basic national fee; a copy of the international application; and an executed declaration which included a power of attorney. These papers were assigned U.S. application number 10/583,102.

DISCUSSION

As is evident from the above recited facts, two sets of papers to enter the national stage have been submitted for international application number PCT/EP04/53091 (United States application numbers 10/596,261 and 10/583,102). The end result for an international application designating the United States of America is a single U.S. national stage application. Therefore, the submission of two sets of national stage papers to enter the United States was improper.

As stated above, the submission dated 16 June 2006 included an executed declaration and power of attorney, therefore, pursuant to MPEP §403.02, all further correspondence with respect to the national stage of PCT/EP04/53091 will be mailed to above-named counsel at the above-listed address and reference application number 10/596,261. Application number 10/583,102 will be discontinued.

Applicants should use application number 10/596,261 in all future communications with the United States Patent and Trademark Office (PTO).

CONCLUSION

Application no. 10/596,261 is being forwarded to the National Stage Processing Branch of the Office of PCT Operations for further processing to: (1) merge the papers filed in U.S. Application no. 10/583,102 into U.S. Application no. 10/596,261; (2) refund the filing fees of \$900 paid in connection with the 10/583,102 application to deposit account no. 14-0112; and (3) change the Attorney Docket number to 27466U.

Applicants should use application number 10/596,261 in all future communications with the United States Patent and Trademark Office (PTO).

A courtesy copy of this communication has been forwarded to the law firm of Norris McLaughlin & Marcus, P.A.



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